



The Maria and Neoptolemos Michaelides Residence

Intimations for a New Modernity

Kenneth Frampton

Edited by Haris Hadjivassiliou

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- First ever book on the Cypriot architect Neoptolemos Michaelides (1920–92)
- Essays by distinguished architectural historian Kenneth Frampton shed light on 13 key designs by Michaelides and explore his masterpiece, the architect’s home in Nicosia
- The Maria and Neoptolemos Michaelides Residence is documented in detail with photographs newly taken for the book and newly created plans
- Illuminates Michaelides’ endeavour to combine modern architecture with traditional Cypriot building methods and the knowledge preserved therein

Neoptolemos Michaelides (1920–92) was a pioneer of modern architecture in Cyprus. All of his designs are based on the desire to develop principles that combine modern architecture with traditional Cypriot construction methods—and the knowledge preserved therein regarding the choice of materials, geographical orientation, natural climate control, and the internal organisation of buildings. These principles are rooted in his studies of Western philosophy and even more in his affinity with Eastern philosophical thought, especially the spiritual importance of a harmonious relationship with nature. Between his respect for pure, natural materials and his awareness of elemental forces, his buildings seem both to worship nature and to evoke the Shintoism of Japan.

In this first ever book on the architecture of Neoptolemos Michaelides, the distinguished American architectural historian Kenneth Frampton presents his work in two essays. The first, illustrated with historical photos and documents, is dedicated to 13 of his most important buildings. The second takes a close look at Michaelides’ own home in Nicosia. Newly taken photographs and plan drawings created especially for the book on a 1:100 scale document this extraordinary house in detail. The beautiful volume is rounded out with a concise biography of Michaelides.

Text in English and Greek.

Kenneth Frampton is an architectural historian, critic, author of numerous books, and Professor Emeritus of Architecture at Columbia University in New York. **Haris Hadjivassiliou** lives and works between Italy and Cyprus, where he runs Doma Architects.